

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A-12NEW YORK TIMES
30 January 1984

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Casey Rebuts Charges By Hart as Demagogic

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 (AP) — William Casey, the director of central intelligence, today defended his handling of personal investments and accused Democratic Presidential candidate Senator Gary Hart of "demagoguery" for suggesting impropriety.

Mr. Casey, in a telephone call to The Associated Press, read a statement of response to comments the Colorado Democrat made Saturday in Iowa. Mr. Casey said his answer was prompted by news accounts of Mr. Hart's remarks that he read in today's Sunday newspapers.

Senator Hart accused President Reagan of demonstrating "contempt for the public trust" by tolerating unethical behavior and abuses of power within his Administration.

Among the examples he cited were charges that Mr. Casey traded \$3 million in stocks while his Government position gave him intelligence information about their likely value, and his reluctance to put the holdings in a blind trust.